

**PHONETIC AND STROKE INPUT METHODS OF
CHINESE CHARACTERS AND PHRASES**

ABSTRACT

A system and method for inputting Chinese characters using phonetic-based or stroke-based input method in a reduced keyboard is disclosed. By introducing common indices to ideographic characters, the system allows the ideographic characters to be shared among different type of input methods such as phonetic-based input method and stroke-based input method. The system matches input sequences to input method specific indices such as phonetic or stroke indices. These input method specific indices are then converted into indices to ideographic characters, which is then used to retrieve ideographic characters.